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CAN FINE ABSENTEES

The difficulty experienced during the past few months in securing quorums at the regular meetings of the City Council has caused impatience on the part of certain members of that body who manage to forfeit other engagements and attend the sessions of the city fathers. It was not last night, hence it was surmised that but few members of either branch would put in their appearance. Six Aldermen, however, were on hand, and the papers which had been placed upon the clerk's desk in the lower board were sent to into the Aldermen's chamber, as but seven members of the Common Council responded to the call for the meeting.

While anxiously awaiting the appearance of two more members who would have formed a quorum, the question as to the best method of impressing upon members their duty to attend meetings was discussed.

One of the group asserted that, according to law, delinquents could be fined. He, however, was unable to place his finger upon the law, and it was supposed he was laboring under a delusion.

But the gentleman is right—members of Council who fail to respond to the notices to attend meetings can be fined. This measure will be found in one of the several books of rules. Forty-odd years ago several members of the lower board of council were chronic absentees. Some of the delinquents were men who had been elected on certain issues, and having gained seats seldom filled them. One night when it became apparent the lower board would not secure a quorum this old law was exhumed and fines of \$1 were imposed upon each of the absentees.

ANOTHER ENTERPRISE

The Board of Aldermen last night adopted an ordinance authorizing the Standard Oil Company to construct three pipe lines for carrying petroleum products under Union street, between Gibbon and Franklin.

The Standard Oil Company has recently acquired property on the east and west sides of Union street, between Franklin and Gibbon. This property adjoins the shipyard on the north, and residents of the southeastern section of the city will be glad to learn that this long-neglected strip of ground is to be used for commercial purposes.

The location reproduces recollections of many years ago. At one time a wharf ran from this point to the port warden's line. At low tide remnants of that wharf can now be seen. Up to 1861 the late Hanson Day conducted a small shipyard on the east side of the thoroughfare. He died during the summer of 1861, since which time no business whatever has been conducted on the place. It is now the abode of arks which form homes for some colored people.

In the olden time a large brick residence stood on the western side, under the old lime kiln. This house fell one day with a loud crash, sending upward dense clouds of dust.

The site of this structure has long been a quagmire, by reason of a spring which was situated in the cellar of the house. All of us know that this property was owned by the Standard Oil Co.

CROWN PRIDE

The most important thing that has come out of France in the past twenty-four hours is the fact that

virtually every military authority, is not the fact that American troops have crossed the Marne, or even that the allies have possession of the railroad running from Soissons to Chateau Thierry, but the statement that the German crown prince had called upon Prince Rupprecht for reinforcements, and that these reinforcements were being sent. They see in it possibilities of vast import entirely aside from the emergency which may make it imperative for the crown prince to call for fresh divisions with which to hold the allies in check on his front. Rupprecht must weaken himself in order to save the eastern armies from an overwhelming defeat.

The British are eager to go into battle again. They are perhaps stronger in both men and materials than they have been since the war began, and they are impatient for an opportunity to retrieve the defeat they sustained in the first German assault of the spring. Nor can it be doubted that if General Foch believes the British army strong enough to advance he will give the order.

AT WORK IN EARNEST

But one board of the City Council was in session last night. Six members of the Board of Aldermen responded to the call. Only seven members of the Common Council were present, and they adjourned to meet again Thursday night.

The Aldermen manifested their earnestness in the movement now in progress for a general cleaning up of the city. The ordinance appropriating \$10,000 for the purpose was read three times and passed by a unanimous vote.

Other measures which were brought before the board provide for the purity of water sold or offered for sale within the corporate limits of Alexandria. The presence of a certain percentage of organisms of the bacillus coli group in water furnished will subject the party or parties offering the same for sale to a fine running from ten to one hundred dollars.

An ordinance to provide for assisting property owners in acquiring sanitary privies and boxes, and an ordinance providing for the disposal of human excreta, were also introduced.

The three last measures were referred to the joint committees on health and general laws.

Persons maintaining nuisances upon their premises are being brought before the Police Court daily, while others who are obeying the orders of the policemen are cleaning up their premises as speedily as possible.

"A SON'S LETTER"

At the request of warm friends in Alexandria made by Sergt. Mosher when he was stationed with the 12th Field Artillery at St. Asaph, the Gazette reprints the following from the Rhode Island Pendulum, East Greenwich, R. I., including an introductory note by the editor of that paper. Young Mosher had fallen a victim to the atrocious Hun—another hero whose memory will be cherished—before his mother's patriotic epistle reached him.

The Editor's Note:
 At the Editor's urgent request the following letter was permitted to be published in the hope that it might do some good in this dark hour when another of our bright, brave boys has given his life for the glorious cause of humanity. The letter is a sacred letter for it shows a mother's heart revealed in a private letter to her son.

Sergt. Cyril B. Mosher,
 Battery D,
 12th Field Artillery A. E. F.
 France.

My beloved son:
 "Mother's Day," and when I realize that my only son, just barely twenty years, is so far away, with all this intervening stretch of land and sea, and into the great heart of this terrible war, the mother heart of me is trailing away 'over there,' full of tender happy memories.

I am thinking today of dear old Kentucky, when as my little man, you ever came to me for advice, love and joy; and all my little store of knowledge I gave to make a future for my boy. You were so strong and well, my little son; so thoroughly clean, for I would not be satisfied with less.

And then from the little dark-eyed Southern lad you grew to be my big man with strong impulses. For the very best of schools we planned, you and I, and, oh, the pleasure when you entered Yale with flying colors, to start upon your chosen profession. It seemed as if the very ideals and as-

pirations we had thought and worked out in those swift beautiful years, brought to the heart of my boy the great brave deed of yielding to his country's call—an enlisted man, nineteen years old in event of war with this country.

Think not, my brave man-child, that while the mother heart of me hugged the thought that I could not give you up, for you were not of military age, that in all these very first moments of decision, I was not very proud of you and your strength of character. And through all the months of camp life at Fort Myer, Va., that my heart did not keep pace with every bugle call.

And when the third chevron appeared upon the dear sleeve, my sergent son, I felt my heart bursting with pride. And, as we walked together through the streets of Washington, I know my step was lighter and my eye brighter than for some time past.

Dearest, there is an old legend which runs thus wise: At creation's dawn, an angel came down to earth to look for something to carry back to heaven. Three things attracted the messenger—a bouquet of sweet flowers, the smile of a little boy, and a mother's love. But when he reached the pearly gates, the flowers had withered, the baby's smile vanished, and only the mother's love remained the same. And all the angels exclaimed: there is nothing pure enough for heaven but a mother's love.

And so, dear heart, while you are away "somewhere," so far, this distance is only in miles, for our hearts are united and I have never lost the sound of your dear voice close to my ear in parting, "Mudgie, I am going away—a long way off, but I shall never be away from you."

All through the lonely nights, that rings through the darkness, and I feel you near.

Sweetheart, you know Mudgie is not made of the stuff that makes her soldier man feel weak, when he is so bravely doing his bit. And I love to think of our little heart message: "Cyril you keep smiling and Mudgie's heart echoes back a smile." And I grow stronger and the Bluebird says, "Heaven is where you and I kiss each other."

Listen, till I tell you one of our little secrets. Sometimes when I meet the men who do not go, I make no sign, but thank God in my heart they are not mine, and of me born.

You and I are sensible enough to realize that 'tis not a bed of untroubled thoughts, this separation, are we not? For there is pain in most great events of life. When you were born, 'way down in that little old Kentucky home, Mother suffered pangs of torture, but that was as naught when they brought me the beautiful baby boy, to bless our home.

And, thus I can only liken the giving of you to this, your country's call, another of those great suffering pangs. But out of it comes the crystal thought of the man's whole purpose to do his very best for Freedom, without a murmur. Ah, putting aside the mother grief, I rejoice that in so great a crisis my heart should have given to the country, are heroic soul—all that I possess; who is making his mother's faith in his young manhood, absolutely fearless. And she stands at your shoulder in this war, and right in your heart, always. I am standing dear, for your sake mostly, to help women of the good old U. S. A. have only this one thing to do—to stand ready, steady of heart and hand, to help our brave men, with all the dear and splendid allies to win the war.

I will enclose the clipping from Paris, dated May 22, which speaks of the Mother's letter, and so am writing you a "Son's letter" which I hope you'll receive safely.

I have just received a card from Camp Dix, from one of the draft men we sent away two weeks ago—an Italian with the proper spirit. He writes, "I don't mind the hard work in camp for I want to get over there to lick them brutes." This is his own vernacular, but 'tis the spirit, is it not? And again, "We will soon be there and do more for our U. S. MY U. S. and Little Italy." So I have written him to work hard, never to complain, obey his officers and that with his spirit, he will soon be wearing a stripe upon his sleeve. Is not that the way to encourage the soldiers, dear heart of mine?

I must reluctantly bring this letter to a close, but before I do, I will tell you, precious, that all your beautiful life you have been a comfort in my life, you and the precious, dainty little sister make heaven on earth for mother.

With all my heart's loving affection, and kisses and wishes for your best happiness.

Lovingly, your own Mother,
 Lily.

Pending calls, it was announced at the State-draft headquarters in Richmond yesterday, will exhaust class 1 of the 1917 registrants in Virginia by August 1. Boards will then proceed to draw men of the 1918 class in class

OFFICIAL

Board of Aldermen.
 At a regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen, held Tuesday, July 23, 1918, there were present: F. F. Marbury, Esq., president, and Messrs. Robinson, Harrison, Wilkins, Batchelder and Ballenger.

Ordinance for police officer be stationed at the intersection of Duke street and Diagonal road referred to committee on police.

Petition from sundry citizens for repairs to pump at corner of Washington and Franklin streets, referred to committee on streets.

Several ordinances referring to the health and sanitary conditions of the city referred to committee on health and general laws.

Petition from H. M. Garner, attorney for Maurice C. Risheill, for deed to lot 31, block 3, section 7, referred to committee on finance and general laws.

Ordinance directing the auditor to deliver to police headquarters the record books of dog licenses passed. Ayes, 6; noes, 0.

An ordinance authorizing and directing the mayor of the city of Alexandria to sign, acknowledge and deliver, under the seal of the city of Alexandria, a deed or deeds for certain lots in the subdivision known as George Washington Park, to the grantees herein named, upon certain conditions. Passed. Ayes, 6; noes, 0.

Ordinance appropriating the sum of \$10,000 for sanitation and sanitary purposes passed. Ayes, 6; noes, 0.

Petition appropriating \$50 for the extension of the sewer bounded by Fairfax, Royal, Wilkes and Gibbon streets in order that all property owners on said square may be given an opportunity to make connection, passed. Ayes, 6; noes, 0.

Ordinance empowering the Standard Oil Company to construct, maintain and operate three (3) pipe lines for carrying petroleum product under Union streets, read the second and third times and passed. Ayes, 6; noes, 0.

An ordinance to provide for the granting by the City Council of Alexandria to the person or corporation hereinafter to be ascertained in the manner prescribed by law, passed by the following vote: Ayes, 6; noes, 0.

Bill of \$12 of Burroughs Adding Machine Company ordered to be paid, passed.

The following resolution which was passed at the last meeting of Common Council was taken up and passed by the following vote: Ayes, 6; noes, 0. Messrs. Robinson and Wilkins appointed special committee to represent the Board of Aldermen:

Resolved, That the Board of Police Commissioners be requested to call a special meeting at once to meet a special committee of council to investigate the failure to enforce numerous city laws.

F. F. Marbury,
 President.

W. W. Ballenger, Esq.,
 Clerk Pro Tem.

Common Council.

At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the city of Alexandria, Va., held July 23, 1918, there were present Howard W. Smith, Esq., president, and Messrs. Ruben, Armstrong, Wattles, Burke, Ballenger and Devers. A quorum not appearing the board adjourned to meet again on Thursday night, July 25, 1918, at 8 o'clock.

Howard W. Smith,
 President.

Teste,
 Daniel R. Stansbury,
 Clerk of Council.

It is reported in Norfolk that tugboat and two barges have been sunk by a German submarine near that port.

The big meat packing plant of the Banks Bros., situated in Norfolk county, just outside of the city, was partially destroyed by fire early last night. The damage will total about \$175,000. The firm is said to hold large government contracts.

BOSCHEE'S GERMAN SYRUP.

Why use ordinary cough remedies, when Boschee's German Syrup has been used so successfully for fifty-two years in all parts of the United States for coughs, bronchitis, colds settled in the throat, especially lung troubles. It gives the patient a good night's rest, free from coughing, with easy expectation in the morning, gives nature a chance to soothe the inflamed parts, throw off the disease helping the patient to regain his health. Sold by Leadbeater Drug Corporation.

FOR SALE AND RENT.

FOR SALE—Pair good work horses, cheap. T. J. Fannon's Coal Yard. 175-2t

FOR RENT—Two communicating rooms; private family; desirable location; references. Address X, P. O. Box 88, Alexandria, Va. 175-1t

FOR SALE—1 Cadillac Touring Car; 1 Alco Seven Passenger Touring Car; 1 Buick-Smith Form Truck. Apply 111 North Pitt street 174-3t

Alexandria Cash Grocery Company

Cor. King and Washington St.

- We are demonstrating Mazola Cooking and Salad Oil tomorrow and Friday. You are welcome to come in and try some of the dainties made with this oil. Mazola is 35c the pint can; large can.....65c
-
- Watremelons, just received, each.....37c
-
- Marshmallow Cream, pint jars.....27c
-
- Ritter's Baked Beans, can.....15c
-
- Fresh Creamery Butter, lb.....49c
-
- Jelly Glasses, per dozen.....29c
-
- Try a Pound of Banquet Coffee.....21c

ALEXANDRIA CASH GROCERY COMPANY.

Southwest corner of King and Washington streets, Alexandria, Virginia. (Brawner & Brother's old stand.)

LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—On Monday, a sum of money by a man in the service. Finder please return to Gazette Office. Reasonable reward. 175-3t

WANTED.

WANTED—Young lady to do clerical work and read proof. Apply Gazette Office. 175-4t.

WANTED—August 15, two light housekeeping rooms; must be in modern house. Address 425, care Gazette 175-4t

WANTED—I want to rent small furnished apartment or room with privilege of doing light housekeeping. Address Mrs. T. J. Fox, General Delivery, Washington, D. C. 174-2t

WANTED—First-class stenographer. Must be able to take dictation; short hours. Write or call, Enlisted Men's Club, Prince and Royal street. 174-3t

WANTED—Girls at the Pants Factory, second story, Gazette Office building, 217 King street, Alexandria; 8c per week while learning; best wages paid experienced stitchers on sewing machines. Apply at once. 172-6t

WANTED—Car Repairmen and machinists; good pay and conditions. Apply at once to Master Mechanic, Potomac Yards, Alexandria County, Va. 172-6t

WANTED—Colored man to learn pressing; good pay while learning; steady position; good wages. Apply at pants factory, 317 King st., second floor, Alexandria, Va. 172-6t

MISCELLANEOUS.

PUBLIC TYPIST—Hotel Humphreys. Phone 495. 174-3t

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Business Men's Lunch

Your Winter's Coal Supply

On account of rulings of the U. S. Fuel Administration, it seems doubtful if Virginia will receive sufficient anthracite coal to supply the demands. If present rulings are maintained, this shortage will be very great in Alexandria and we earnestly advise our customers to put in a reasonable amount of bituminous coal as a safeguard against a coal shortage next winter.

We are now securing some very fine bituminous coal which we believe will work in all characters of coal burners but the fatrobe stoves.

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