

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT IN RICHMOND.

No. 7.

It is gratifying to know that some members of the Council at least are in sympathy with the strong and growing sentiment in this community for a reconstruction of our form of municipal government. But if we are going to reform it, why not reform it altogether? The Times-Dispatch wishes to see the plan simplified and reduced to a business basis. We do not propose that the sovereignty of the corporation, of which City Attorney Pollard speaks, shall be abolished or impaired. We do not propose to change the integrity of the Council, nor to take away any of its functions. We propose merely to reduce the size of it to a working basis, and our plan would conform to the State Constitution as completely as the present plan conforms. Reduce the wards to two, and let the line of division run north and south, or east and west; we care not which. Let us have an east ward and a west ward, or a north ward and a south ward; it is immaterial. Then elect two Councilmen and one Alderman from each ward, which would give the two wards equal representation. There would then be two branches of the Council, as now, and there is no reason that we can see why the two branches should not meet in joint session for the transaction of business.

We take it that under the Constitution the Mayor could be a member of the Council, as is the case in Houston, but he could sit with the Council and advise with the members, and of course, he would retain the power of veto.

This would give us a perfectly simple form of government, and the Council would be a business organization, composed of business men who would be paid for their services, and who would give their entire time to the city's affairs.

We confess that we have the sense of leading a forlorn hope in advocating such a measure. The people of Richmond are very much set in their ways and cling with loyal tenacity to their traditions. Many of them will doubtless be horrified at the idea of abolishing wards which bear honored and sacred names. If they prefer sentimentality to business we cannot help it, but there is no practical reason why these ward lines should not be obliterated and the hamlet system retired, and there is every practical reason why they should be. Richmond is one city and should be so regarded and administered.

But instead of simplifying the plan, the committee proposes to make it more complex and confused. It is proposed to retain the wards as now defined and to elect a Council composed of so many members from each ward, and then commit the executive affairs of the city to a board of control. We shall then have a City Council probably as large as ever, a board of control, a board of police commissioners and a board of fire commissioners. Moreover, it is intimated that the committee has it in mind to have the various heads of the departments to be administered by the board of control elected by the Council, and so continue the system of political appointments. If this plan be adopted our last condition will be worse than the first.

Let us root out the political evil and reorganize our city government on the plan that is simple and safe.

SOCIAL and PERSONAL

Genuine regret has been expressed at the prospects and hostilities of the State Buildings at the Jamestown Exposition over the departure early in the week of Governor and Mrs. Swanson, who have occupied the Virginia Building since early in June. Virginia has been declared at the exposition to be most fortunate in having a Chief Executive so courteous and cordial to all as is Governor Swanson, and praise is heard on all sides for the gracious hospitality extended by him and his wife. Governor and Mrs. Swanson have been the recipients of much attention from the commissioners of the States, and it is a matter of comment and pride among Virginians that they are seen in the receiving line on all State occasions.

To say the Mrs. Swanson has won the esteem of all who have met her is but half to express the impression she has made by her graciousness and unfailing cordiality. To her must be given the credit of inaugurating a series of late afternoon soirees on the grounds which have proved an unusually pleasant diversion. Every afternoon at 5 o'clock a merry party of guests have met at the deepwater pier, where they have boarded the yacht Commodore Maury for a sail to the cape. Delightful sea breezes, gorgeous sunsets, and the magnificent spectacle of the exposition grounds illuminated have rendered the return voyage very enjoyable. The last of these excursions took place on the Fourth of July, when the sail back from the cape was rendered doubly brilliant by the display of fireworks on the ships and at the exposition.

Mrs. Swanson will be heartily welcomed when she returns for the Richmond Day celebration, on July 18th, after a week's visit to Mrs. John Swanson in Danville.

May—Heath. The marriage of Miss Louise Nystrom Heath, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Heath, to Mr. John Joseph May, Jr., took place yesterday morning at 10:30 o'clock in the home of the bride's parents, No. 2300 East Grace Street. Rev. Father Edward, of St. Mary's Church, performed the ceremony.

The house was prettily decorated with palms and pink cut flowers. Miss Frederica L. Nystrom had charge of the music, playing Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" as a processional, and Mendelssohn's "Spring Song" during the ceremony.

Miss Maude Weaver Heath, the bride's sister, was maid of honor, and wore white chiffon and lace over taffeta. Her flowers were La France roses. Mr. Herbert J. Latta, of Raleigh, N. C., was best man. The bride's two cousins, Miss Margaret Harper Fortune, of Lynchburg, and Miss Addie Carter, of Richmond, were bridesmaids, and were prettily gowned in pink organdie over pink taffeta. They carried maidenhair ferns tied with pink tulle.

The bride wore a going-away gown of brown taffeta, trimmed with applique, an antique Bridal rose. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. May left for Isle of Palms, S. C., the summer home of the groom's parents. From there they will go by boat to New York and other Northern points, and on their return, about September 1st, will be at home at No. 2300 East Grace Street, this city.

The bride party was charmingly entertained at the home of the bride Monday evening.

Among those who attended the wedding from a distance were Captain and Mrs. J. J. May, parents of the groom; Mr. James J. May, Miss Marie May, Mr. and Mrs. John Lynch, Mr. and Mrs. William E. Johnson, Mrs. M. Duffy and Miss Duffy—all of Charleston, S. C.; Mr. and Mrs. James J. Dunn, of Cleveland, O.; Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Corcoran, and Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Corcoran, of Savannah, Ga.; Mr. J. C. Latta, of Raleigh, N. C.; Mr. R. W. King, of Raleigh, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jahnke, of Gonzales, Texas; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cobb, of Raleigh, N. C.; Captain and Mrs. Richard Boaze, Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Puela and Mr. Alfred Hughes, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mr. James E. Jahnke, of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Kennedy—Carpenter. A marriage of much interest in Richmond is that of Miss Sallie Lee Carpenter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Carpenter, of Clifton Forge, Va., to Mr. Walter Gardner Kennedy, of Boston, Mass., son of the late W. T. Kennedy, which will take place this evening at 9 o'clock in the bride's home, No. 120 Allegheny Street, Clifton Forge, Va. Rev. George E. Davis will officiate.

Mr. W. D. Baker, who is well-known in Richmond, will sing several songs before the ceremony; and Miss Ella M. Smith will preside at the piano. Miss Dora Louise Carpenter, sister of the bride, will be maid of honor, and Mr. Robert Carlyle Cochrane, of Boston, Mass., will be best man. Some of the bridesmaids are Miss Dorothy Sentz who will hold the ribbons, Miss Katy Mathews will be flower girl, and Master William George Mathews will be ring-bearer.

An elegant reception will follow the ceremony, when the bride will be received by Mr. and Mrs. George K. Anderson, Mrs. L. M. East, Mrs. C. H. Carpenter and Mrs. B. F. Donovan.

After spending a few days in New York, Mr. Kennedy and his bride will sail for a twelve-months' tour of Europe. They will make their home in Boston, Mass.

The bride-to-be has many friends and relatives in Richmond, where she has frequently visited.

Merry Hay Ride. The Highland Park Social Club gave a delightful hay ride on Friday evening. A large four-horse wagon, well filled with hay, met the party at the corner of the Messers' Boethe, on Chestnut Hill, and with much singing and laughter the merry young people were driven to Lakeside. There many games were indulged in and supper was served. The evening was greatly enjoyed by all.

Among those present were: Misses Virginia Sublette, Virginia Jones, Alice Wilkins, Addie Huffman, Mary Huffman, Josie Boethe, Mary Boethe and Hazel Jude; Messrs. J. D. Mitchell, Albert Sublette, Norman Smith, D. C. Pugh, Percy Martin, Richard Sale, Boyd August, Percy Martin, Bell, Jude and Reede. Mrs. Vandeburg chaperoned the party.

The Stay-At-Home Whist Club met Monday evening with Miss Jane Ruthcroft at No. 822 West Grace Street. Top score was made by Mrs. Bland Spottedwood Smith and Mr. S. W. Traylor. The club will meet next week with Mrs. Arthur P. Wilmer at No. 817 West Grace Street.

Pretty Card Party. Miss Minnie Ganaway, of Lynchburg, entertained at a pretty card party Monday morning. The house was decorated in sweet peas, carrying out a beautiful scheme of pink and pink. Pretty color scheme of pink and pink. The prizes were won by Miss Rosalie Jackson and Miss Fannie Camm.

Among those present were: Miss Mary Chalmers, of Richmond; Miss Ann Boif, of Christiansburg; Misses Dell Hamner, Mary Christian, Mary White, Phyllis Payne, Nellie Zewel, Kate Young, Charlotte Clark, Mary Lazarus, Susie Crump, Gladys Ulterback, Thelma Shaner, Rosalie Jackson, Bortha Dinsmore, Winnie Engart, Bessie Hamner and Fannie Camm.

Merry House Party. Messrs. Wyndham and Wallace Blanton, of Richmond, are entertaining this week at a merry house party in the summer home of their parents, Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Blanton, at "West Hill," Cumberland county.

Dr. and Mrs. Blanton and the young boys are charming entertainers, and have devised many attractive and enjoyable outings for their friends.

Their guests are: Misses Mary McFaden, Marie Sands, Katherine Binton and Mary Green Watson; Messrs. Blair and Moylan Pitts, William Martin and James Cecil—all of Richmond. The party will spend about ten days at "West Hill" before returning to their homes here.

Personal Mention. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Palen, of Newport News, are the guests of Mrs. Palen's mother, Mrs. George W. Mayo, at No. 203 West Grace Street.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Buchanan reached the city Monday afternoon, after an extended bridal trip to Northern cities. They will make their home for the summer with Mrs. Shafer, on Chestnut Hill. Mrs. Buchanan was formerly Miss Mary Emma Hethorn, of Lunenburg county, Va.

Mrs. S. W. Page, of this city, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Anton Schatzel, in Portland, Me., for the past month, left with her a few days ago for Mrs. Schatzel's country home at Oxford, Me.

Mrs. E. A. Saunders, Sr., of this city, is the guest of her son, Mr. H. S. Saunders, of "Upper Shirley," on James River. She has three of her grandsons—Bailey, Carlton and Foster Saunders—with her.

Mr. Andrew Pizzini, Jr., has been spending some time in New York and Spring Lake, N. J.

Professor Edgar Dawson and Mrs. Dawson, of Princeton University, N. J., who have been the guests of Mrs. Luther Dawson, in Richmond, have left for Long Island to spend the remainder of the summer.

Mrs. Abner Stevenson Pope has returned from a visit to Buckroe Beach and the exposition.

Among the late arrivals at La Noel Cottage, Bon Air, are Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Valentine and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis W. Wise, of Richmond; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Ribble, Miss Virginia Ribble and Master Keith Ribble, of Washington.

Mr. B. C. Willis, of Theological Seminary, Virginia, has been operating on at Memorial Hospital. He is every much improved, and expects to be out in a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Balmer are at Bedford City, Va., for the summer. Mrs. Fannie C. Tucker, who has been quite sick for the past week, will leave Wednesday for "The Frederick," Staunton, Va.

Mr. Bryant Winston, Jr., of St. Louis, and Mr. Miller Winston, of Sydney, Ill., are the guests of Mr. John T. Golden, of No. 607 West Grace Street.

Miss Elizabeth Prince Short is visiting the family of Dr. H. H. in Sussex Courthouse, Va., and will later be the guest of her cousins, the Misses Stevens, in Petersburg.

Mrs. L. S. Young, two children and maid have gone to Scottsburg, Va., for the summer months.

Rev. Dr. F. T. McFaden went to Lynchburg Tuesday to attend the dedication of the Shelton Memorial Cottage, at the Presbyterian Orphanage.

Mr. P. H. Bowler, of No. 313 Randolph Street, left on Sunday last for Cincinnati, O., to be away about two months. While away he will visit other points farther West.

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. W. R. L. Smith and family are at the Outer Cottage, Buckroe Beach, for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Newton Vaughan sailed on Saturday for a several months' trip in Northern Europe.

Miss Virginia Clarke is visiting Miss Hilda Schmeiz, in Hampton.

Among the guests at Cape View Cottage, Buckroe Beach, are the following Richmonders: Mrs. J. Blinford, Miss Angeline MacDonald, Mrs. Poor and children, Mrs. Gen. Taliferro, Dr. and Mrs. W. R. L. Smith and family.

Mrs. Charles E. Porter, of Lynchburg, is visiting friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Julian Muse and children are guests of Mr. E. Compton and family, in Fredericksburg.

Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Jr., and Miss Edith Chandler, who are spending the summer in Caroline county, came down last week to spend a short time in Richmond.

Miss Zella Gentry is the guest of Miss Rena Cosby, in Hampton, Va.

The Rev. R. A. Lapsley spent several days at Greenwood, Va., last week, where his family is spending the summer.

Mr. George Todd is visiting his parents, the Hon. and Mrs. J. W. Todd, in Staunton.

Mrs. R. V. Richardson and family, of Hampton, are visiting friends here.

Misses Bessie and Ella Hammond have returned from a visit to Miss Emma Russell, in Winchester.

Mr. H. M. Walthall is visiting his

Advertisement for Boston's Old-Home Week Summer Carnival, July 28-August 3, 1907. Includes details about excursions, entertainment, and contact information for the City of Boston Publicity and Information Bureau.

Poems You Ought to Know

Whatever your occupation may be, and however crowded your hours with affairs, do not fail to secure at least a few minutes every day for refreshment of your inner life with a bit of poetry.—Prof. Charles Eliot Norton.

The Beautiful City. Copyright, 1887, by James Whitcomb Riley. Other selections from this author, his portrait, autograph and biographical sketch, have already been printed in this series.

The Beautiful City! for ever Of organs tumultuous sound: We fain would behold it, but never A glimpse of its glory is found: We slacken our lips at the tender White breasts of our mothers to hear Of its marvelous beauty and splendor— We see—but the gleam of a tear!

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daughters, Mrs. W. D. Turner and Mrs. John W. Avery, in Bristol.

Mrs. Jack Baber, of Mineral, Va., is spending several weeks with her daughter in this city.

Mr. Moffett Robinson has returned from a week's visit to relatives in Pineville, Va.

Mrs. George F. Bagby and her sister, Miss Lawrence, have returned from a delightful stay at the Boulevard Inn, near Hampton.

Mrs. M. L. Harris, of Blackstone, Va., who has been visiting relatives here and in Washington, is now the guest of friends in Petersburg.

Misses Laura and Ida Ward, of Murphysboro, Ill., who have been visiting in Southwest Virginia, passed through Richmond last week en route to Jamestown Exposition. They were joined in this city by their brother, Mr. Ballard Ward.

Mr. W. H. Lambeth is registered at the Fairfax, Norfolk.

Mr. St. Julien Wilson spent several days with Captain H. C. Marshall in Portsmouth last week, and attended the Marshall-Niemeyer wedding.

Little Miss Lucile Collins, who has been visiting friends here, has returned to her home in Bowling Green, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Forrester attended the Grove-Anderson wedding in Norfolk yesterday.

Miss Davis, of Richmond, is visiting Miss Lucy Allen in Park View, Portsmouth.

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Hotchkiss and Miss Elizabeth Hotchkiss are spending the summer at their country home in Albemarle county, near the University of Virginia, where Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Hotchkiss are their guests.

Mrs. Luther Dawson and son are spending some time with Mr. and Mrs. Hotchkiss.

Miss Madge Bowle is spending the summer near Guinea's, Caroline county.

Mr. L. Neale, who has been spending some time at Buckroe Beach for his health, has returned home much improved.

Miss Jennie Murcher is the guest of Miss Saddle Light in Portsmouth.

Mrs. H. C. Ligan has returned from a visit to her mother in Lynchburg.

Mrs. Charles Thompson, of Bacon, Va., was recently the guest of friends here.

Mrs. William Pound, of Fredericksburg, spent Sunday in Richmond.

Mrs. Florence Norment Gibson recently visited her brother, Mr. D. Norment, near Magruder, Va.

Rev. E. C. Lynch, of Buchanan, Va., has been visiting friends here.

Mrs. Fletcher and Mrs. Woolfort, of

Advertisement for The Times-Dispatch, including subscription rates and contact information.

Advertisement for the City of Boston Publicity and Information Bureau, located at 43 Tremont Street, Boston, Mass.

Advertisement for 'Going Out of Town?' featuring a poem and information about the author.

Advertisement for 'The Beautiful City' by James Whitcomb Riley, including copyright information.

Advertisement for 'The Gold Democrats' discussing political issues in Virginia.

Advertisement for 'Rhymes for To-Day' featuring a poem about a woman's way.

Advertisement for 'A Woman's Way' featuring a poem about a woman's way.

Advertisement for 'Good Luck Baking Powder' featuring a poem about good luck.

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