

DRAMATIC MOMENTS IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

Last Session of the Board of Equalization Like Stormy Times in Old Council Rooms.

TIME LIMIT ON SESSION

As Four O'Clock Drew Near, Tension Grew Stronger—Unanimous vote by Council.

The scene in the council chamber Saturday afternoon, when the council was sitting as a board of review, for the last time, and the question of the taxation of the Mississippi River Power company was being presented, reminded one of the old council days when stormy sessions were staged, and where oratory was untruncated without limit. The board's session was fixed to end at four o'clock. Some action one way or another must be taken before that time, and the clock was anxiously watched by both sides in the argument. At 3:30 o'clock Mayor Lofton warned those in the room that only thirty minutes were left. Another speaker took ten minutes of this, and then S. H. Johnston laid another card on the table, so to speak. Another speech of two minutes, and the council was given the question to consider.

Over in one corner of the room they sat, a little group of three. Most of those who attended the session had retired. The city solicitor, the assessor, and an attorney for the power company and the newspapermen were the only outsiders in the council chamber. In a few minutes the mayor called the council to order. "Mr. Mayor," said Councilman Hickey, "I move you that the assessment of the power company be reduced to \$500,000."

Councilman Hilpert seconded the motion, and the mayor asked the clerk to call the roll. As the names were called each man responded Aye.

The Resolution to Reduce.

The resolution which was adopted this matter, follows here:

Whereas, S. H. Johnston, assessor for the city of Keokuk, Iowa, and Jackson township, inside, Lee county, Iowa, has assessed for the year 1916, certain properties belonging to the Mississippi River Power company, and as located within this assessment district at a valuation of sixteen million dollars, and, whereas, complaint has been made against said assessment by the Mississippi River Power company, as excessive and for other reasons, and,

Whereas, petitions have been filed by citizens and tax payers of Keokuk and Lee county, Iowa, relating to the said assessment, and,

Whereas, the said complaint and petitions have been carefully considered, be it,

Resolved, by the mayor and city council of the city of Keokuk, Iowa, sitting as a board of review for the year 1916, that the assessment made by the assessor for the year 1916 of certain properties of the Mississippi River

Power company, and the penalty added thereto, be and the same is hereby set aside, and the said assessment and penalty, be and the same are hereby fixed, at the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, which sum shall include all penalties.

A Protest is Entered.

Councilman Hickey then moved to adjourn. "Wait a minute," interposed the assessor, "I have something more." He produced the following protest to the reduction which he asked to have filed. It was moved then that the assessor's protest be received and filed. By unanimous vote it was done. Following is the protest:

To Ed. S. Lofton, Mayor,
Frederick Hilpert and T. J. Hickey, Councilmen:
I, the undersigned, S. H. Johnston, assessor, hereby complain of the lowering of the assessment upon the property of the Mississippi River Power Co., described in the assessment rolls before you, assessed by me at \$8,000,000, actual value, with like penalty attached. I protest against the lowering of said assessment because said property is of actual value of not less than said amount, for which it was assessed by me, and because said assessment and valuation made by me was in no greater proportion than the assessment and valuation of other property in this tax district, and to lower said assessment enables the property owner to escape its proportion of the just burdens of taxation imposed by law on this property and imposes a greater and undue burden of taxation upon the other property owners in this district.

And the undersigned further protests against any cancelling or reduction of penalty added by me as such assessor in making such assessment because it was imposed in compliance with law and cannot be lawfully cancelled or reduced. I hereby request you to restore the said assessment to amount at which it was returned by me as such assessor, namely the sum of \$8,000,000, with penalty added.

S. H. JOHNSTON,
Assessor.

Then on motion of Councilman Hickey the board adjourned.

Irwin Flays Sudden Virtue.

When The Gate City went to press Saturday afternoon, Wells M. Irwin was speaking. The first part of his talk was given in Saturday's issue. "The trouble is," he continued, "that men have told people here that if the water power company was taxed, their taxes would be cut in two. This is a deception and a fraud. Why didn't this come up before? In the language of the streets, 'search me.' Why didn't the men who were here when we made this agreement, get righteous then as they seem to have gotten now? As I recall it, the council room was packed, and the crowd extended along the corridors, down stairs and outside the building. "We have all been benefited more by the dam, than we will be by the taxation of the dam. I know this is true and I know that without any trouble I could get 3,000 names to the petitions we circulated. How can we expect to get other industries to come here, if we break faith in this matter?"

"You wouldn't take advantage of a railroad because it could pull up rails and ties and leave. But you think,

GRIP AND NEURASTHENIA

There is a form of neurasthenia that follows the grip. Doctors call it "post-grippal" neurasthenia. One of the foremost medical authorities of New York city in a lecture in the international clinics, said:

"Broadly speaking, every victim of the grip will suffer from post-grippal neurasthenia also. Lowering of nervous tone with increased irritability is the most striking effect of the disease, languor of mind and body, disturbed, fitful sleep and vague pains in the head and elsewhere. The treatment calls for rest and a tonic."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, a non-alcoholic tonic, are particularly suited for building up the blood and strengthening the nerves after an attack of the grip. The rich, red blood expels the lingering germs from the system and transforms despondent grip victims into cheerful, healthy, happy men and women.

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On request we will send you a free pamphlet, "Building Up the Blood," which contains a chapter on the grip. Address the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

just because you've got the dam here where it can't leave, you can tax it. If we break this promise, we'll never have another chance."

Some Figures are Shown.

C. F. McFarland followed Mr. Irwin. He explained that he was there as a private citizen, not as a representative of the Industrial association. He intended to present an historical statement of the matter, he said, which was not a part of the petition.

"I consider there are two kinds of promises," he said. "Breaking one means punishment; breaking the other means dishonesty. I consider that we should be more careful not to err in this latter way. I know that the power company last year lost \$109,000."

"Where?" interrupted the assessor. "On interest charges on bonds and indebtedness, part of the operating expenses," Mr. McFarland replied. "The company had to pay interest on the bonds, but paid none on the stock. Am I right in this, Mr. Kellogg?" he asked, turning to the manager of the power company.

Wouldn't Look at Books.

"You are," Mr. Kellogg replied. "and while I'm on my feet, I want to say that when the assessor called on us, I offered, requested and almost begged him to let me show him our books, and he refused to look at them."

"Let me say," continued Mr. McFarland, "that the first petition for exemption was for the Keokuk and Hamilton Water Power company, and not for Stone & Webster. It was for Keokuk men.

"I might also add that the electric rates were cut from 15 cents to 10 cents."

Assessor Johnston rose to his feet as Mr. McFarland finished. "Would you take the word of Stone & Webster in the figures that they have given you?" he asked.

"I certainly would," came the response from McFarland.

"Well, here's a little book that I picked up in Chicago and it shows that the gross earnings of all Stone and Webster companies in 1915 were \$1,651,250.34."

Other figures were quoted by the assessor, who asked how they could lose the \$109,000 which it was claimed that they had.

"Why don't you look through the entire book and see all of the figures?" the assessor was asked.

Pleas for Equalization.

J. F. Sanders was then recognized. He said he came up primarily to listen to the arguments and that he had not intended to say anything.

He hoped, he said, that the impression was not being given that an attempt was made to make an example of the water power company. "From our investigation," he said, "the water power company is not the only sinner. This has been a case of trying to equalize assessments," he said.

The speaker did not believe that anything should be asked for under an agreement that violated the state laws. The council did not have the power to change such a question, anyway, that could only be done by the state legislature. He could see no ground for this talk of moral obligations. He did not see how anybody could ask men in office to violate their oaths, and especially when these men could be removed from office for this violation, he said.

"I have no personal feelings," the speaker said in this matter, but when you see widows and laborers working to get a little money to pay their taxes, and then see others escape, it makes you wish to see right done."

"That was like the good old days of the sessions of the city council," commented one of the men who had been in the council chamber.

REVIVAL SERVICES AT PILGRIMS REST

Rev. G. D. Saunders Will Close Sermons Wednesday Night of This Week.

The Rev. Dr. G. D. Saunders who is conducting revival meetings at the Pilgrim Rest Baptist church, preached two able and soul-winning sermons Sunday morning and night. "Despite the rain yesterday, a large audience listened to the sermon, the subject of which was 'The Garden and the Gardeners.'" He featured the church of God as the garden and its sainted members as the gardeners who work with might and power to till the soil and destroy the weeds of unrighteousness which spring up when the garden is not properly tilled.

He said: "All ground when it is to be used for garden purposes, has to be plowed, raked, and that the church is the same. The plow of faith breaks up the soil of unrighteousness; the rake of truth harrows up the brush of discord, malice and discord; the hoe of salvation digs out the weeds of strife, envy and discord; the garden is marked off into rows and the seed of purity, love and peace is planted and at the reaping time good results are brought forth. The church is cleansed of all its sins and made a church of sanctification unto God."

Last night a fair sized audience heard Dr. Saunders deliver a message from Mark 8:30: "Go and tell Jesus all that you have done."

Dr. Saunders will remain in Keokuk until Wednesday night and will preach each night. Services begin at 7:30 sharp. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend each service.

REVERE, MO.

Rain, rain, every day this week. Very cool weather, not many gardens made yet.

Mrs. Walker is no better and there is not much hope for her recovery. Mrs. White is improving slowly. Mrs. Stewart of Peakeville is a great deal better.

Mr. Ames of Argyle, departed for her home Tuesday evening, after spending several days in Revere, visiting.

Rev. Lamont of Medill will preach at the Methodist church Sunday.

DOWNING, MO.

The school here closed Friday. There were six high school graduates.

Mrs. Tallie Conaway of Memphis spent Saturday with Albert Goosey and family.

Dr. Bondurant of Memphis made a professional trip to Frank Hope's Friday.

Mrs. Roy Croson who has been dangerously ill for some time, is some better as present.

John Harvey of Arbela was here Saturday, having some dental work done.

Mrs. Henry Cook, after a two weeks visit with home folks, went back to Rochester, Minn., Saturday to take treatments for throat trouble. We hope her recovery will be speedy.

Miss Vada Daniels closed a successful term of school at Lynn Grove, Friday. She returned to her home in Lancaster Friday night.

Mrs. Charles Lewis and daughters spent Sunday with Mr. Lewis who is in the hospital at Keokuk.

Mr. Chris Elschlager met with a very painful accident Saturday afternoon. As he was going down the

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That beautiful, even shade of dark, glossy hair can only be had by brewing a mixture of Sage Tea and Sulphur. Your hair is your charm. It makes or mars the face. When it fades, turns gray or streaked, just an application or two of Sage and Sulphur enhances its appearance a hundredfold.

Don't bother to prepare the mixture; you can get this famous old recipe improved by the addition of other ingredients for 50 cents a large bottle, all ready for use. It is called Wythe's Sage and Sulphur Compound. This can always be depended upon to bring back the natural color and lustre of your hair.

Everybody uses "Wythe's" Sage and Sulphur Compound now because it darkens so naturally and evenly that nobody can tell it has been applied. You simply dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through the hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning the gray hair has disappeared, and after another application it becomes beautifully dark and appears glossy and lustrous. This ready-to-use preparation is a desirable toilet requisite for those who desire dark hair and a youthful appearance. It is not intended for the cure, mitigation or prevention of disease.

year by Dr. Geo. Long, as a healthful help to the rising generation. A bit of beach just north of the old juice factory, south of town, has been secured and improved for bathing purposes, and it is proposed to at once erect a handsome bathing pavilion with concrete foundation and floor, and fitted with shower bath and other conveniences.

J. P. Ingie, general manager of Keokuk Electric Co., with Emil Renaud of Keokuk, were white way visitors Saturday and also calling on friends. Mr. Ingie may well be proud of the happy consummation of his project.

The Warsaw Gate City

Warsaw, Ill., May 1, 1916.

No town of its size has finer sidewalks than Warsaw, but, on Saturday night, "white way" night, she was, figuratively speaking, "walking on air," proud as a young girl with her spring suit on, Easter morning, thanking in her heart, the liberal business men, the city council, and the Keokuk Electric company. Main street had been cleaned for the occasion, the stores brightened up in many ways, while their fronts were decorated with bunting and flags. Our country cousins and other visitors began to assemble a little after noon, coming by trolley, auto, and buggy, though there was not as large a crowd as was expected, due possibly to the threatened rain which happily held off until the day was over, as if specially favoring us so that nothing would mar the pleasure of the occasion. Free moving pictures at the two theatres in the afternoon proved a winning attraction and both houses were filled to standing room only. Our visitors while seeking pleasure, sought bar-

gains also, and all of our merchants report good business. At 7:30 p. m. the sidewalks were crowded with people, and the street with autos drawn up to the curb. Not an electric sign or street light was burning. The band was stationed at Fifth and Main streets, and after playing one selection, there was an expectant hush, and as the first note of the second selection broke on the air, simultaneously the white way flashed together with the electric signs, the band playing, auto horns tooting, and wild huzzas filling the air, and Warsaw's long talked of white way was

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