

**SALEM CHARTER BILL
IN HOUSE KILLED
BY SMALL MARGIN**

After Very Lively Discussion Lasting Nearly All Day, but Senate Bill May Meet With Better Fate in the House When Final Action is Taken.

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 9.—This House bill providing for a city charter for Salem was indefinitely postponed in the House just before adjournment last evening after an exciting day of discussion. The motion to postpone carried by a vote of forty to thirty-seven.

As soon as the bill was read it was attacked by those who opposed placing the issuing of saloon licenses exclusively in the hands of the council. The chief reason for the attack is that the State Industrial Home for Girls is located just outside of the town, and one reason impelling the selection of that point was that Salem had no saloons. A motion to indefinitely postpone was made and debated vigorously for several hours, and finally adopted, but the announcement of the vote was fought off for some time by a motion to reconsider, which brought in its train a number of other motions to adjourn and postpone that held the body in session for an hour longer. Finally the motion to reconsider was indefinitely postponed.

The bill was taken up on motion of Maxwell, of Harrison, and put on its first reading. Mr. Ingram then made the motion to indefinitely postpone consideration of the bill.

**RAU GETS
THE JACKSON**

Boys Woodford and Dunnington's Lease and Takes Possession of the Hotel.

Walter F. Rau has purchased Messrs. Woodford and Dunnington's lease of the Jackson hotel in Parkersburg. The deal was consummated Wednesday night. Mr. Rau is still in Parkersburg, looking after the hotel and will not be home for several days. Immediate possession was given him, and he will manage it himself for a while at least. Although he will spend much of his time at Parkersburg, Mr. Rau will continue to reside in this city, his interests being large here and being identified not only with the Metropolitan hotel but other enterprises of a profitable nature. He is a first class hotel man and is widely known over the state as such. His acquirement of the Jackson means a valuable addition to the hotel men's circle of Parkersburg and under his management that successful hostelry will continue on an even greater career.

**ALLEGED
CONSPIRATORS**

To Be Tried For Trying To Defraud the United States Government.

By Associated Press.
Washington, D. C., Feb. 9.—The trial of Machen, Lorenz and Crawford, who are under indictment of 1903 for conspiracy to defraud the government.

TWO KILLED BY EXPLOSION

By Associated Press.
Cleveland, Ill., Feb. 9.—A lead blast on a drainage canal exploded today, killing John Lynch and Michael Mackey, and seriously injuring another.

VOTED ON RATES.

By Associated Press.
Washington, D. C., Feb. 9.—The House today began the last day of discussion of the freight rate regulation bills. A vote was taken today.

Speaking to the motion to indefinitely postpone Mr. Maxwell made a strong argument against the motion and in favor of the bill. He exhibited a long list of names, all but one those of citizens of Salem, to a petition asking the passage of the bill. It was not a whiskey measure, he said, for a number of those now here in favor of the bill are absolutely opposed to the sale of whiskey. He himself would wipe the liquor business entirely out of the state if he had the power.

Mr. Ingram replied in a speech of considerable spirit. He said the entire state was interested because of the Girls' Industrial School.

The merits of the bill were discussed by Messrs. Fleming, Evans, Kittle and Herndon, in favor, and Messrs. Preston, Craig, Rardin, Holmes and Wetzel, of Jefferson, in opposition.

Last week the senate by vote of 21 to 5 passed its bill giving Salem the charter, and the House will have to consider it. While the action yesterday is a severe blow to the movement, yet it is claimed that the advocates of the measure will go to work harder than ever to pass the Senate bill, and there is yet more than a probability that Salem will get the charter.

**"BUGGY" AND
CUTRIGHT**

Are Heading Movement For a Clarksburg Base Ball Team—Central State League May Be Formed.

Clarksburg is going to have a professional ball team this year. Frank Welch and C. B. Cutright are again at the head of a movement which a few years ago gave to this city the fastest base ball team ever gotten together in the state. A glance at some of the players will bear out the statement. In the lineup they had "Bull" Smith, Curtis, Snyder, "Buck" Washer, now with Philadelphia, Shriver, Ed. Kenna, now with St. Louis, Lefty Core, Bob Conaway and several others equally as good. These men are all in fast company now. The men at the head of the movement think that they can pick out just as good a bunch again. It is their intention to get a park built outside of the city, and then they can have Sunday ball. If they are successful in this movement it should be a great success.

Fairmont is already preparing for the fans. Manager Slack, who secured such a fast bunch of players last year, will again manage the Fairmont team. It is the intention of the management to get a ball park closer to the town than the one which they had last year. It is very probable that a league will be organized in this section, embracing the towns of Clarksburg, Grafton, Fairmont and Morgantown.

**CONVICTED
OF MURDER**

Was Floyd Stollings, of Logan—Jury Recommended Life Imprisonment.

By Associated Press.
Logan, W. Va., Feb. 9.—Floyd Stollings was today convicted of the murder of Rose White last December, the jury recommending life imprisonment.

GERMAN ARTIST DIES.

By Associated Press.
Berlin, Germany, Feb. 9.—Adolf Von Mensel, artist, died today.

**STATHERS
FOUND
LETTER**

THAT ELLIOTT WROTE TO JOHN WORTHINGTON, THE GAS MAN, AND LOST.

GENERAL CURTIN AND RANDOLPH STALNAKER BOTH SAW HIM HAVE IT AND READ IT.

Stathers Will be Summoned to Testify Before Investigating Committee How It Came Into His Possession.

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 9.—At the third session of the Elliott letter investigation committee last evening little that was new was brought out except as to who first found the letter. The question with the committee seems to be whether there was anything in the charges of corruption stated by Elliott in his letter.

General George W. Curtin was the first witness called.

He said Friday evening, January 27, after returning to my room, Dr. W. E. Stathers said I have something to read to you and read a letter addressed to Worthington and signed by Elliott. I said you had better be careful and not let it get out of your hands.

I went home Saturday and knew nothing more till I returned. Witness said Stathers didn't state how he got it, or what he was going to do with it. Stathers later told him it was in the hands of newspaper men.

Randolph Stalnaker testified that he had heard the letter read in Smith's room Saturday evening and that he then said he didn't care if it was published in every language in the world. Don't know how Smith got it or Elliott lost it.

Asked as to reference to him in the letter as being "in close touch all the time," the witness replied, that he didn't know what Elliott had meant by it. Said he had no interest in the gas bill. Denied that he knew anything of a pre-election deal between Dawson and the Standard Oil Company.

Attorney General Elect-May declared that he was not involved in any legislation and did not know what Elliott meant by his insinuation. He stated that he was not interested in the gas bill and didn't know anything about the letter. Said that he didn't know anything improper on the general talk. Said he knew of no one going into a conspiracy with Elliott to defeat the gas bill. May said he had been opposed to the gas bills and that Elliott was an active lobbyist. Asked if Dawson was not an active lobbyist, he replied that he never knew of Dawson working as a paid lobbyist.

Speaker Grosscup was next called. Said he was interested in the gas bill but never knew of the existence of the bill till the judiciary committee of the house had reported it favorably. Said he was interested in its recommitment, because it affected his business. He said he had asked members of the bill to give the opposition a hearing on the bill and that he had asked McCame to make the motion to re-commit it and had told Worthington and others to appear before the committee. Said he had talked to Elliott; that Elliott had asked his judgment about the bill and he had answered that he thought it should not pass and was going to try and have it re-committed. Said he was connected with the Kanawha Light, Gas and Fuel Manufacturing Company.

Delegate McCame was at the last meeting. He told about the bill in committee and his talk with Grosscup, but told nothing new or vitally important. Said Elliott had talked with him about re-committing the bill.

At the conclusion of the hearing, a list of additional witnesses to be summoned was prepared. A disagreement arose between the committee over whom to summon. The list contains the names of Auditor Scherr, Attorney General Freer, W. E. Stathers, T. G. Brady, John T. McGraw, W. Ohley, Elliott Northcott, C. E. Wells, Governor, A. B. White, Governor-Elect Dawson, C. D. Elliott, who is to be recalled and Senators Elkins and Scott.

Dr. Stathers will be required to tell how he came to have the letter in his possession.

**DEATH OF
MRS. RIGGS**

Esteemed Woman of Mount Clare Passes Away After an Illness With Pneumonia.

Mrs. Grace Riggs died at her home in Mount Clare Wednesday night at ten o'clock from pneumonia. The deceased was 57 years of age and is survived by several children. Her death causes deep sorrow among a wide circle of friends.

The funeral will take place from the late home Friday morning at ten o'clock. The burial will occur in the Hansford cemetery at Mount Clare.

ELKS GO TO WHEELING.

William L. Goppert, Samuel R. Bentley and Jay Reeder went to Wheeling Thursday afternoon to meet a number of Wheeling Elks and confer with them as a delegation from the Clarksburg lodge of Elks regarding the big circus the Clarksburg lodge will give in the near future. The circus is to be like the one the Wheeling Elks gave with so much success a short time ago. Besides looking after the lodge business all three gentlemen will attend to private business matters before returning to Clarksburg.

**IROQUOIS
MANAGER
FREED**

From An Indictment Charging Him With Manslaughter For Terrible Disaster.

By Associated Press.
Chicago, Ill., Feb. 9.—The indictment charging Manager Davis, of manslaughter, on account of the Iroquois theatre fire, was squashed today, the document failing to show any omission of duty by Davis.

ANOTHER BLIZZARD.

By Associated Press.
Omaha, Neb., Feb. 9.—Another blizzard started today. It is feared traffic will be greatly impeded.

By Associated Press.
Norfolk, Neb., Feb. 9.—A severe blizzard is threatened in Nebraska, and South Dakota. Stock is endangered. Traffic is crippled.

By Associated Press.
Louisville, Ky., Feb. 9.—Weather conditions are better in the southwest, but between the Mississippi river and the Atlantic ocean telephone wires have been practically out of business since Saturday and telegraph lines are badly crippled.

**MISSING MAN
IS VISITING**

By Associated Press.
Columbus, O., Feb. 9.—Dr. O. H. L. Macher, superintendent of the Gallipolis hospital, who has been reported missing, telegraphed today from New York that he was there on a pleasure trip and none need worry about him.

**EX-JUDGE
IS DEAD**

Former Federal Judge Blodgett Passes Away At His Home In Illinois.

By Associated Press.
Chicago, Ill., Feb. 9.—Henry W. Blodgett, who resigned in 1892 from the federal bench, to become counsel in the Bering Sea arbitration, died today in Waukegan, his home.

Judge Blodgett was born at Amherst, Mass., July 21, 1821, and was educated at common schools and Amherst academy. In April, 1850, he married Althea Crocker, of Hamilton, N. Y. He studied land surveying and engineering, but began the study of law at Chicago in 1842 and was admitted to the bar in December 1844. He located at Waukegan, Ill., in February, 1845. He was a member of the Illinois legislature in 1852-4 and state senator from 1859 to 1863. In 1869 he was appointed United States district judge for the northern district of Illinois and served as such until 1892, when he resigned to become one of the counsel of the United States before the arbitration tribunal of the United States and Great Britain in regard to fur seals in Bering Sea.

**EMERGENCY
MEETING
OF BOARD**

OF THE TRUSTEES OF WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY OF WEST VIRGINIA HAS BEEN CALLED.

MEETING WILL BE HELD IN CAPTAIN POUNDSTONE'S OFFICE AT BUCKHANNON NEXT WEDNESDAY.

Purpose Is To Take Immediate Action On Situation Arising From Destruction of Main Building By Fire.

The board of trustees of the Wesleyan University of West Virginia, will meet next Wednesday to take action relative to the disaster by fire that recently visited that institution. An emergency call has been officially issued as follows:

"This urgent call is made for a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Wesleyan University of West Virginia, to be held in Captain Poundstone's office, in Buckhannon, on Wednesday, February 15th (inst.) at 8:30 o'clock a. m."

"H. G. McWHORTER, 'Pres. Board of Trustees.' 'JOHN WIER, 'Pres. W. U. W. Va.'"

Following the call are the following notes by President Wier, explaining the situation and the purposes of the meeting:

"Our main building was destroyed by fire Saturday morning last. Cost of building, \$38,000. (not including improvements.) Insurance, \$16,000. The work of the school proceeds in temporary quarters.

"1. We must have a building for class work complete and ready for occupancy by the end of August next. With no proper place to teach students will not come to us.

"2. We must have a full meeting of the board. Failure to secure a quorum now would thwart plans for money getting within and without the state.

"3. We must begin effort immediately. Action of the board is imperative before any effort can be made.

"4. Make sacrifice if necessary to be at the meeting of Wednesday, the 15th inst.

"The crisis of our school life is upon us. We must act now."

**MANY NEW
STATIONS**

Are To Take Place of Shanties Along the B. & O. Railroad This Year.

President Murray, of the B. & O. railroad, has an aggressive policy and believes that to give the public the best facilities results in the most successful operation of a railroad system. Having spent over \$100,000,000 during the past seven years in reducing grades, taking out curves, laying new tracks and improving terminals, it has been decided to provide up-to-date stations at many of the small places along lines of the road.

The erection of sixty new stations and the building of extensions to ten others has been authorized at an aggregate expenditure of about \$80,000. The cost of each improvement will range from \$250 to \$1,500. The new stations will be located at different points along lines of the road where worn out old buildings have been in use. A number of them will be combined freight and passenger stations, and others will be used exclusively for handling freight. Some are in course of construction and contracts for others will soon be awarded.

Among those in this section are combination stations at Berryburg and Cranberry, freight station at Pannaburg, combination station at Wilsonburg, extension at warehouses at Cogers, Ellensburg, Arnold and Toll Gate and combination stations at Lumberport and Rinehart on the Short Line.

SPRAINED HIS ANKLE.

I. Newton Williams, the brick manufacturer, is hobbling on crutches as the result of a fall on an icy pavement. He sprained his right ankle. The injury is painful.

**CHEAPER GAS
IS PROMISED
FOR ADAMSTON**

Ordinance Granting Gas Franchise in That Town Passes Its First Reading at Town Council--New Company Will Organize and Put in Competitive Gas System.

The Adamston town council met in the town hall there Wednesday night at 7 o'clock, with Mayor Southern, Recorder Cutright, Councilmen Morris, Wolfe and Criss and Chief of Police A. J. Shafer present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the recorder and approved by the council.

The mayor, as superintendent of streets, reported that the streets were never in better condition, explaining that they were frozen solid. The report was received without action.

The ordinance committee reported for adoption an ordinance in vogue in Clarksburg prior to the adoption of the city charter, entitled, "An Ordinance on Offenses Against Good Order and the Peace of the Town of Adamston," containing 63 sections. The ordinance was adopted and ordered spread on the ordinance book of the town.

The following franchise was introduced, and upon motion of Morris, seconded by Wolfe, was passed to its second and last reading, Mayor Southern not voting and Criss voting against:

An ordinance granting to George C. Southern or assigns the right to use the streets, alleys, roads and squares of the town of Adamston for the purpose of laying gas mains, pipes, etc., therein and making connections therefrom with public and private property and of conducting gas for light and fuel through the same, to and for the use of the occupants of such property and the inhabitants of the town.

Be it ordained by the council of the Town of Adamston that George C. Southern and his assigns, individually and severally, be, and he and his assigns are hereby granted the franchise and right to use, for the period of fifty years from the date of the adoption of this ordinance, the streets, alleys, roads and squares of the Town of Adamston for the purpose of laying gas mains, pipes, and connecting with same, through, across and under the said streets, roads, alleys and squares and make connections therefrom to public or private property, conduct gas through said mains, pipes and con-

nections to such property, and to supply gas to the inhabitants of said town and occupants of said property, and make all necessary excavations for the purposes aforesaid and do all things necessary to the same end, but said Southern or assigns shall repair such streets, alleys, roads and squares immediately after such excavations or as soon thereafter as possible or practical and refill and leave the same in as good and permanent condition as they were immediately before such excavations were made. If said streets, roads, alleys or squares, or any of them are now paved or shall be paved before such mains, pipes and connections shall be so laid therein such paving shall not be disturbed by said Southern or assigns except with the permission of the committee on streets, alleys, roads, etc., or the superintendent of such streets, etc., and if disturbed with such permission, such paving shall be replaced by said company under the direction of said committee or superintendent.

As a part of the consideration for the rights herein granted the said George C. Southern, his successors and assigns, agree to furnish to the Town of Adamston on and after the date when they shall have a system of pipe lines laid and completed for supplying gas in said town and so long as they shall operate said system hereunder, gas free for heating and lighting the mayor's office of said town, and gas for ten street lamps for street lighting free of charge to said town, said lamps to be placed under the supervision and direction of the said council, or its authorized representative.

The mayor appointed Cutright, Smith and Criss as the finance committee.

Upon motion of Criss the council adjourned to meet in two weeks.

Mr. Southern announced a schedule of prices it was proposed to charge that is much lower than is now being paid. He also stated that it was the intention to organize a company and put in a complete system. It is understood that ample territory can be obtained for the use of the proposed company.

LAUNDRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Will Meet in Wheeling Monday and Tuesday in Fourth Annual Convention.

The fourth annual convention of the West Virginia and Maryland State Laundrymen's Association will be held in Wheeling at the Carroll Club on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 13 and 14.

The association is composed of all the laundrymen in all the cities of this state, with the exception of Charleston, and those of Western Maryland. The officers are: Joseph R. Miller, of Morgantown, president; Ernest McCoy, of Fairmont, first vice president; Mr. Smith, of Mannington, second vice president; Lawrence Wehrle, of Wheeling third vice president; W. J. Lutz, of Wheeling, treasurer, and T. W. Heironymous, secretary.

The association will convene at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, when routine business will be taken up and matters pertaining to the trade, especially to express rates, will be discussed. In the evening a banquet will be served by Ziegenfelder, and one of the features of the evening will be the illustration of a machine delivery system. On Tuesday the business will again be taken up, officers elected and the place of holding the next convention selected.

The organization has been in existence for four years and has been highly successful in its objects. The session this year is expected to be the most successful one yet held and

the members are very enthusiastic over the prospects.

Visitors, other than members of the association, from Ohio and Pennsylvania are expected to be present, twenty attending from Pittsburg alone.

ICE GOES OUT

The constant rain Wednesday and Wednesday night resulted in raising the West Fork river and Elk creek considerably and the ice went out from 8 to 11 o'clock Thursday morning, but without damage to property as the waters were low before the blizzard came.

MANY HURT

By Passenger Train Going Through Bridge and Some Perhaps Fatally.

By Associated Press.
Melbourne, Ia., Feb. 9.—A west-bound St. Paul passenger train went through a bridge early today. Many were injured and some perhaps fatally.

Two are dead and twenty-four injured. The engine and eight cars are in a ditch. The 200-foot bridge is wrecked.

The accident was the result of a broken rail. Conductor Marsh is dead, and Brakeman Moore is missing. Of the injured, Minnie Taylor, of Chardon, O., is cut about the head, and her right side is injured.