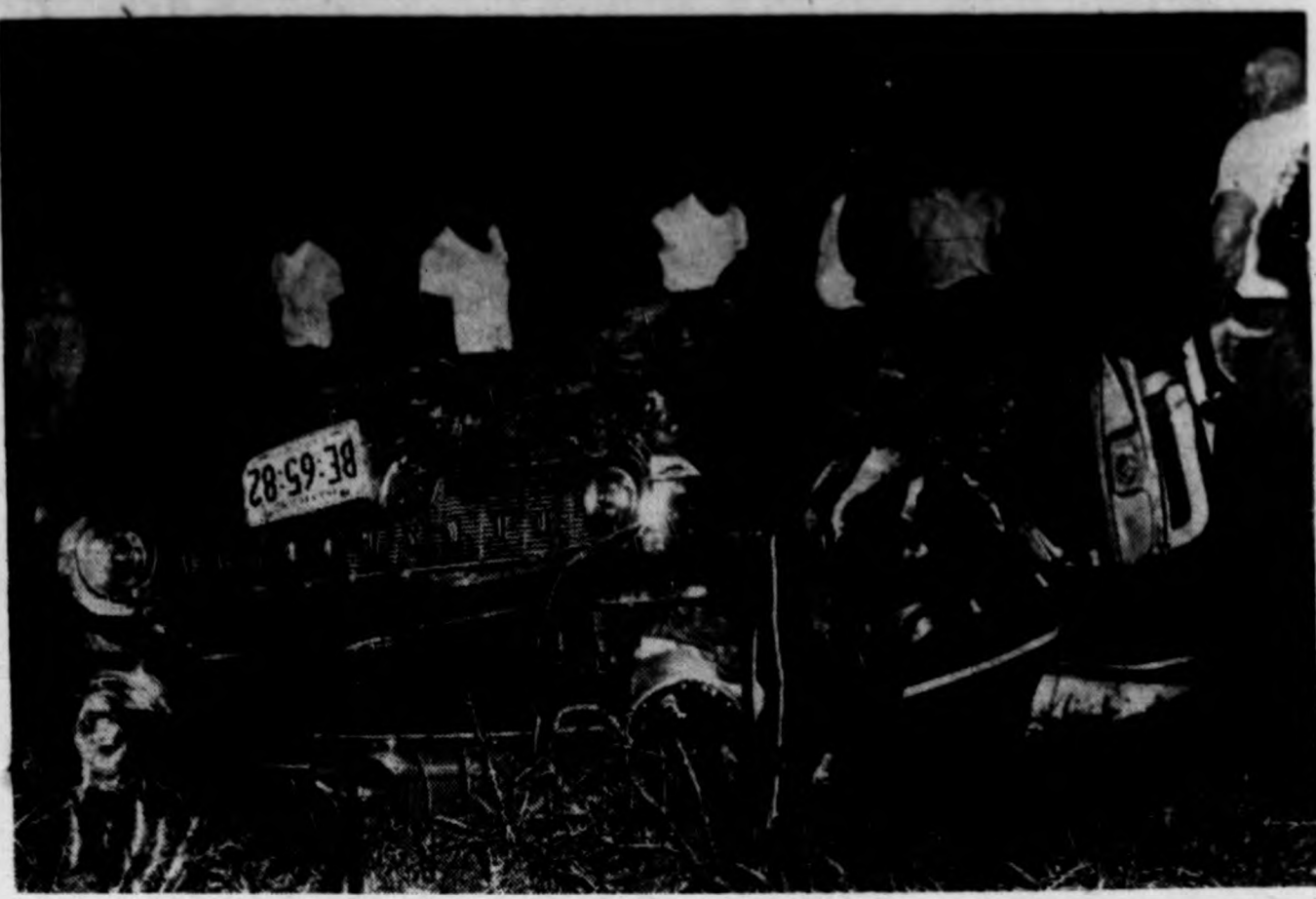


# The Clinton Chronicle

Vol. 61 — No. 35

Clinton, S. C., Thursday, September 1, 1960



Seven teen-agers who were in this car when it was hit by a train at a grade-crossing here Saturday night. Investigating officers said that all were thrown from the car, and that was the reason only one

seriously injured. A Whitmire youth was taken to a Columbia hospital Monday. Others were treated at Hays Hospital here for scratches and bruises.—Photo by Dan Yarbrough

## Train-Car Collision Here Saturday

### Seven Narrowly Miss Death in Crash

An automobile loaded with seven teen-agers was hit by a southbound passenger train at a grade crossing here late Saturday night. Only one of the group received injuries regarded as serious, five were dismissed after overnight observation and treatment for bruises, and one was held for further treatment.

They were traveling in a 1957 Oldsmobile and had turned north at the Jones street crossing off East Carolina Avenue when they were hit by a Seaboard Air Line Railway passenger and mail train, headed for Atlanta about 11:00 p. m.

They mistook the crossing for the North Adair street crossing which leads to the Whitmire highway. The car had stopped on the tracks to back off and go on to the next crossing (one block away) when the train hit.

The impact spun the car around like a top, overturning it and reducing it to a mass of twisted steel. The occupants were thrown out, a development which authorities said may have saved their lives.

"They were real lucky," Deputy Sheriff Ralph Riddle said after viewing the demolished car.

Four of the youths are from Whitmire and the others, from Baltimore, Md., were visiting in Whitmire.

Worst hurt was Winford McCullough, 17, of Whitmire, who suffered a head injury and was moved Sunday to a Columbia hospital.

Others in the car were Frances King, 15, Bonnie Roper, 16, and Maxine Privette, 15, all of Whitmire, and Mavis Thomas, 13, Allen Minor, 16, and Raymond Don Thomas, the driver, all of Baltimore, and visiting in the home of B. F. Adair of Whitmire.

All of these but Minor, who remains at Hays hospital, were discharged Sunday after overnight observation and treatment for minor scratches and bruises.

Investigators said the car was hit in the right front as it backed off the crossing. A head-on smash would have proved more disastrous, they said.

The youths were returning to Whitmire after visiting a drive-in on Highway 224 between Joazeur and Clinton, officers reported.

Engineer R. F. Shaw was reducing his train's speed as it pulled into the Clinton depot to make a scheduled stop a quarter of a mile from the crossing.

## Rites Held Friday For Mrs. W. R. Pitts

Funeral services for Mrs. Lillian Simpson Pitts, 62, widow of W. Roy Pitts, were held Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Broad Street Methodist Church, conducted by the Rev. Joel E. Cannon, pastor. Burial was in Elmwood cemetery.

pallbearers were L. S. Riddick, Frank and Mack Pitts, William C. Nixson, Jr., L. E. Copeland, Jr., and G. E. Simpson, Jr.

Mrs. Pitts died Wednesday afternoon at Blalock Clinic after several months of declining health.

She was a native of Laurens County, Jacks Township, but spent most of her life in Clinton. She was the daughter of the late James L. and Julia Glenn Simpson.

Mrs. Pitts was a graduate of Clinton High School and attended Watterburg College. She was a member of Broad Street Methodist Church.

Her husband died in 1936.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Robert J. Grobe of Camden; five sons, William R. Pitts, Jr., Earl H. Pitts, and Charles T. Pitts, all of Clinton; P. Lewis Pitts of Bethune; and Harold F. Pitts of Greensboro, N. C.; a brother, Gayne L. Simpson of Clinton; two half-brothers, Marion J. Simpson of Laurens; and G. Robert Simpson of Clinton; and 16 grandchildren.

## Two Men Charged In Assault Case

Furman Posey, 31-year-old Laurens County man, was ordered held Friday for grand jury action after a preliminary hearing on a charge that he raped a 16-year-old girl.

Posey and Arthur James Wright, 22, of Greenville, are charged with assaulting the girl near a fish camp on Reedy River about midnight June 25.

Posey has been held in Laurens County jail since his arrest and Wright has been free on \$2,000 bond.

The hearing was conducted by Magistrate Sam McCrary at the Clinton police station.

The girl testified that Posey, Wright and another man from Greenville called for her at her home on the night of June 25 and together they drove to the home of a second girl. The second girl's mother would not permit her to accompany them, she said.

She said that she and the three men drove to the fish camp, about 17 miles southwest of Laurens, where she was attacked twice by Wright and once by Posey. After the incident, she testified, the two men drove her back to Clinton and put her out of the car about a block from her home.

The girl testified that when she arrived at home she told a sister about the alleged attack and her sister, in turn told her mother, who notified officers.

Sheriff's Deputy George Blackwell testified that officers picked the three men up at a cabin they had rented at the fish camp. The third man was not held.

Dr. George R. Blalock, of Clinton, testified that he examined the girl after the alleged attack and that in his opinion she had been molested.

## Three Men Charged With Morphine Sale

Three Clinton men were arrested late last Wednesday night, taken to Greenville, and on Thursday were charged with the illegal sale of morphine tablets worth \$1,248.

The arrests were made by a federal narcotics agent, aided by Laurens County and Clinton officers and State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) agents.

The men were arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Jesse M. Ray and were then turned over to U. S. Marshal M. Frank Reid, who transferred them to the Greenville County jail.

Those arrested were identified in the U. S. warrant signed by Commissioner Ray as B. D. Taylor, 36, of Clinton; William Dees, 32, of Clinton; and Rex Harris, 40, alias "Frank."

Commissioner Ray set the bond of Taylor at \$5,000, and bonds for Dees and Harris at \$4,000 each.

A hearing for the men has been set for today (Thursday) at 3:30 p. m. in the grand jury room of the Federal Building in Greenville.

Warrants signed by Commissioner Ray charged all three men with "aiding and abetting in the sale of 300 morphine tablets at Clinton."

Material witnesses listed on the commissioner's warrant and complaint are John R. Enright, of Atlanta, district supervisor, U. S. Bureau of Narcotics, and Thomas Wyatt, of Columbia, state drug inspector.

Authoritative sources said an undercover federal narcotics agent, who was not named, had had the three men under surveillance for some time prior to their arrest. They were taken into custody between 11 p. m. and midnight Wednesday at separate places in Clinton.

Aiding in the arrests were Sheriff C. W. Wier of Laurens County, and Clinton Police Chief B. B. Ballard and Assistant Chief W. B. Blakely.

**MRS. SEASE PASSES**

Mrs. Mamie Shealy Sease, 89, of near Gilbert, died at her home August 25 after a lingering illness. She was the widow of H. S. Sease.

Survivors include Mrs. O. C. Woodruff of this city, with whom Mrs. Sease had spent some time in the past few years, and Major Elberta Sease of Fort Gordon, Ga., who formerly lived here.

Services were held on Friday at St. Paul Lutheran Church of which she was a member, with burial in the church cemetery.

## Clinton Legion Officers Installed

Elvin Holtzclaw is the new commander of Clinton's Copeland-Davidson American Legion Post.

The new officers, installed at a recent meeting, include: Howard Watkins, first vice-commander; Louis Bond, second vice-commander; Mac C. Hipp, third vice-commander; Ted Prevate, adjutant; Thurston Giles, finance officer; R. E. Johnson, chaplain; C. F. Winn, historian; R. Pape Chapman, service officer; and Roy Smith, sergeant at arms.

Committee chairman: Milford Smith, Americanism; Joe McGee, athletic; Winford Norris, youth activities; C. D. Benjamin, child welfare; C. E. Burnett, community service; and Tom Baldwin, publicity.

## Merchants To Close Labor Day, Wed. P.M.

Clinton merchants will be closed on Monday, Sept. 5, in observance of the Labor Day holiday, according to an announcement by J. Robert Cox, chairman of the merchants' division of the Chamber of Commerce.

The group also voted to observe the usual Wednesday afternoon closing for the coming week.

## Health Center Open Thursday A. M. Sept.

Announcement has been made by Mrs. Annie G. Waldrop, county health nurse, that the health center on Woodrow street will be open additional hours through September.

Added to the regular schedule of Tuesday 10:00-12:00 a. m., Thursday 2:00-4:30 p. m., will be Thursday morning hours 10:00-12:00 a. m.

**SERVICES BE BROADCAST**

Morning services at Bailey Memorial Methodist Church will be broadcast on WPCO Sunday with the pastor, Rev. B. A. Wolfe, by means of the message, the topic being "Your God Is Limited."



## At Welfare Dept. Meeting Here

Shown above is the group of more than 100 county citizens that attended the annual dinner of the Laurens County Department of Public Welfare in the Presbyterian College dining hall Thursday evening. In the lower photo are Ratchford W. Boland, member of the County Welfare Board, who

## Whitten Village Begins School Term

The fall school term at Whitten Village began Monday, August 29. At the campus school, teachers who will continue their work are: Mrs. Allie Hamilton, Miss Louise Cox, Mrs. Sara Dailey, Mrs. Hattie Mae Hunter, Mrs. Ayliffe R. Jacobs, Mrs. Agnes Holland, Mrs. Margaret D. Sease, all of Clinton; Mrs. Elizabeth M. Fuller, Mrs. Inez Lindley, Mrs. Edith C. Wingo, Mrs. Nell W. Taylor, all of Laurens; Mrs. Rubie B. Milam of Mountville; and Mrs. Mildred H. Johnson of Newberry. Also Rudolph Matthews and Joe Shay of Clinton.

Mrs. LaBruce Heist Sumter, will continue on a part-time basis as dance instructor. Mrs. Beatrice B. Sloan will again head the homemaking department, with Mrs. C. B. Orley and Mrs. Gladys Cato as assistants.

The following teachers will continue their work at the Circle school: Mrs. Mary Jim Horton, Mrs. Eva S. Pitts, Mrs. Emily P. McMillan; Mrs. Mary Ross Martin, Mrs. Ione Wallace, Mrs. Willie Mae Copeland all of Clinton; Mrs. Mertie Roper, Laurens; and Mrs. Beatrice Coates, Mountville. An addition to the Circle School staff this year is Mrs. T. C. Johnson, Jr., of Clinton.

Miss Norma E. Hallett continues as acting director of the two schools. Mrs. Kathleen Gaffney is secretary.

## PC's New Session To Open Sept. 12

Presbyterian College points to the opening of its 81st session on Sept. 12 against a background of applicants representing the largest in the history of the institution.

Waiting lists of freshmen seeking to enroll this fall have been maintained since last spring, even with the increasingly stringent admission requirements.

Figures for mid-term admissions of five show that more than 1,000 prospective students contacted PC relative to September entrance. Approximately one-half of these completed all elements of formal application, from which just 134 students could be accepted. Many excellent students remain on the waiting list at this date.

New students are scheduled to arrive on campus on Monday, September 12 to begin orientation week activities. They will register on September 13. Upperclassmen will return that day, in time for September 14 registration, and classwork opening the fall semester of the 81st session is set to start the next morning.

## Republican Club To Meet September 7

The Laurens County Republican Club will hold a meeting on September 7 at 8:00 p. m. in the Laurens Federal Savings and Loan Association Friendship room to formulate plans for a county-wide political rally.

Furman Ott of Laurens, county chairman, said, "All Republicans and others who are interested in better government and a two party system are invited to attend."

## Pep Meeting For Clinton High Students

There will be a pep meeting at Clinton High School this evening, Thursday, at 7 o'clock in preparation for the first game of the season with Woodruff Friday evening. All students are invited to participate.

## Civitan Club To Have Chicken Barbecue For CHS Scoreboard

The Civitan Club of Clinton is sponsoring a chicken-barbecue supper on September 9, preceding the second home game of the season of Clinton High School football team with Ware Shoals. Proceeds are to apply toward the purchase of a scoreboard.

Tom Stewart, of Clemson, is the cook and supper will start at 6:30 at the new high school field. Price of supper is \$1.25. Tickets are on sale this week through the high school students and Civitan members.

Everyone interested is asked to participate in this event to help secure the much needed scoreboard.

## Approval Given For Grant To City Sewerage System

Clinton has been awarded a grant of \$28,500 for improvement to its existing municipal sewerage system, according to information from the office of Senator Strom Thurmond in Washington.

Application for the grant was made several weeks ago to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The funds will be used to construct a \$98,000 addition to the sewerage system in the southwestern section of the city, where the city and Lydia Cotton Mills will join in a proposed project to properly handle sewerage from the two communities.

Engineers are now preparing plans and specifications for the building of a lagoon near the present outfall, plus other facilities and equipment.

The project will require the acquisition of several acres of additional land adjoining the present plant.

## Plywood Worker Dies Suddenly

George Rice, 25, of Rt. 2, Clinton, collapsed and died while at work at Standard Plywoods, Inc. about 9 a. m. Monday.

Fellow workers said Rice slumped to the floor while tending a machine. He was taken to Blalock's Clinic where he was pronounced dead.

The body was sent to Greenville where an autopsy was to be performed. Acting Coroner Sam H. McCrary said he would await the findings of the autopsy before he decides whether to hold an inquest.

Investigating officers were Deputy George Blackwell, Asst. Chief W. B. Blakely and Allen Simmons, both Clinton policemen, and Sheriff Caldwell Wier.

## Fred T. Coleman, Cross Hill Merchant, Passes In Hospital

Cross Hill—Fred T. Coleman, 62, merchant and farmer of Cross Hill, died at 9:45 a. m. Monday at a Greenwood hospital after several months of declining health.

Mr. Coleman was born in Laurens County, a son of the late James Haskins and Gertrude Walker Coleman. He spent his entire life in Cross Hill and was a member of the Cross Hill Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Pinnon Coleman of the home, four sisters, Mrs. Alma C. McClary of St. Stephen; Mrs. Benne Setzer of Clinton; Mrs. Polly Preece of Greenwood; and Mrs. Ruth Black of Chester; a brother, James H. Coleman of Cross Hill.

Funeral services were conducted at the Cross Hill Baptist Church Tuesday at 4:00 p. m. by the Rev. W. M. Usery. Burial was in Liberty Springs Baptist Church cemetery.

## County Welfare Dept. Annual Dinner Held Here Thursday Night

About 100 guests and staff members attended the annual dinner meeting of the Laurens County Department of Public Welfare at Presbyterian College Thursday night.

Ratchford W. Boland, of Clinton, secretary of the County Welfare Board, presided and introduced the guest speaker, Arthur B. Rivers, director of the State Department of Public Welfare. Mrs. Noble Little, director of the county Department of Public Welfare, recognized key personnel of various agencies who cooperated with the department throughout the year.

She noted that the annual dinner is held in an effort to better acquaint the public with the program, policy and problems of the department. Brief remarks were given by Dr. Marshall W. Brown, president of Presbyterian College, senator-elect King Dixon, and House members-elect Dr. C. J. Hart and Hubert Graydon. Also recognized was Dr. James C. Kinard, chairman of the state board of public welfare.

Mr. Rivers spoke on the policies under which the Department of Public Welfare operates. He told the group it was a 30 million dollar corporation "of which you and I are stockholders, a corporation whose stock in trade is service—service to the people."

He listed the basic services of the department as 1) financial assistance, and 2) the rendering of special services other than financial assistance.

"The demand for services are greater each year," he said, "particularly among the dependent children."

In addition to Mr. Boland, other members of the County Welfare Board are James M. Donnan and W. N. McDaniel of Laurens.

## Battery B Assn. Reunion Slated Friday, Saturday

Battery B of the 107th AAA Association will stage its fourth reunion beginning Friday and continuing through Saturday.

The two-day event will get underway at 2:00 p. m. Friday, with registration at the National Guard Armory on South Broad Street.

Following registration, a business meeting will be held. Expected to attend are former members and their families from the Carolinas, Georgia, Virginia, West Virginia, New York and Pennsylvania.

Saturday's activities will include a guided tour of Joanna Cotton Mills beginning at 9:00 a. m. A banquet and dance Saturday evening, beginning at 8 o'clock, will conclude the reunion, with music by The Kings of Clinton.

Association officers are R. E. Johnson, president; Winford Norris, vice-president; Boyd Holtzclaw, secretary; R. C. Prator, treasurer; Harvey Foster, sergeant at arms; Bill Terry, historian; and Col. B. F. Wingard, director.

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Sheriff's Deputy George Blackwell said that Hannah Owens, 40, was dead when officers arrived at the scene of the shooting shortly after midnight Friday.

Officers said the woman was shot in the back with a .32 caliber pistol. Elizabeth Shepherd, 31, at whose home near Clinton the shooting occurred, suffered a gunshot wound of the back and was admitted to a Clinton hospital, officers said.

Deputy Blackwell said that the women were shot as they stepped from a car driven by Samuel Copeland. Officers said Copeland told them that a car driven by Owens followed his car into the yard.

Owens admitted the shooting to officers, telling them that he and his wife had been separated and that he had tried to get her to return to him.

Magistrate Sam McCrary empaneled a jury and announced that an inquest will be conducted.

The sheriff's office said warrants would be sought charging Owens with murder and with assault and battery with intent to kill.

## Community Concert Membership Drive

A membership drive in the Clinton Community Concert Association for the coming season will be held in September.

The week of September 12 has been designated as renewal week with solicitations for new members to begin on September 19.

Mrs. Henderson Pitts is drive chairman and those interested may contact either Mrs. Pitts or Mrs. James Wolfe, president.

**MAULDIN TO LEAVE**

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He will begin his new work about the middle of September and Mrs. Mauldin and little daughter, Karen, will move as soon as they are able to secure living quarters.

Mr. Mauldin, a native of Greenville, came to Clinton upon graduation from Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville, Ky.

## Bible Classes Begin Sept. 20

The annual Community Bible Class will begin Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 7:45 p. m. in room 109, Neville Hall, Presbyterian College. This session begins the fifth year of Bible studies.

The series of studies this year begins again with a "Survey of the Old Testament." These courses are taught by Dr. T. Layton Fraser, and there is no charge for instruction. Everyone interested is invited to register. Please contact Johnnie Haskins by telephone at 1537-W.



Here are members of Clinton's new city council that went into office today for a two-year term. They are, left to right, front row: S. A. Pitts, ward two; Mayor J. P.

Terry; George W. Bagwell, ward five; back row: Joe V. Edwards, ward four; Frank M. Boland, Jr., ward one; James C. Craine, ward six; B. Noland Suddeth, ward three.—Photo by Dan Yarbrough

## For Two-Year Term

### New Council Takes Office Today

Clinton's new city council, which took office today, held an organizational meeting Monday night after being sworn in by City Attorney Cecil White.

The business transacted was scheduled to take effect at the beginning of the fiscal year, September 1.

Personnel of the new council includes Mayor J. P. Terry, who begins his 10th two-year term in the office. Councilmen: ward one—Frank M. Boland, Jr.; ward 2, S. A. Pitts; ward three, B. Noland Suddeth; ward four, Joe V. Edwards; ward five, George W. Bagwell; ward six, James C. Craine.

New members of council are Suddeth and Edwards, while Craine is a former councilman.

Pitts was named mayor pro-tem upon nomination by Craine, who was supported by a 4-2 vote over Bagwell, nominated by Boland. For Pitts, Craine, Edwards, Suddeth, Pitts, for Bagwell, Boland and Bagwell.

Boland and Bagwell were named Clinton's members of the board of Clinton-Newberry Gas Authority.

Mayor Terry was elected to act as recorder to preside over municipal court.

All department heads and employees were re-elected to their present posts by a vote of five for, with one member, Suddeth, not voting.

According to minutes of the session, Suddeth made a motion "to rehire all city employees on a temporary basis, giving members of council the necessary time to study

each department's needs and requirements for their personnel."

The vote on the motion was divided, 3-3, with the mayor casting the deciding vote against it. The vote was Edwards, Suddeth and Pitts, for, and Bagwell, Boland and Craine, against.

Another session of council is scheduled for Sept. 12.

**Old Council Raises Pay**

At a called final meeting of the outgoing council, also held Monday evening, the pay of council members was raised to \$50 monthly and that of the mayor to \$150. The former schedule was \$25 and \$100.

According to the minutes, a motion was made by Councilman Pitts, seconded by Councilman Bagwell, that "effective Sept. 1, 1960, the council members shall receive \$15 as expense allowance in addition to the regular \$35 monthly council pay. The mayor shall receive \$150 per month. No additional pay for any called meetings shall be allowed."

The motion was adopted unanimously by those present, including Aldermen Bagwell, Boland and Pitts. Absent were retiring Councilmen Charles B. Leatherwood, James P. Sloan and Harry C. Layton.

In addition to council pay, those serving with the mayor on the Gas Authority Board receive \$25 per month, and the recorder \$20 additional.

The only other business transacted at the final meeting was the declaring of the official results of the general election in August which named the new city officials for the next two years.

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